



Minutes

Bicycle & Trails Advisory Committee

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 10, 2003

PRESENT: Hubbell, Cheu, Hauge, Clark, Eltgroth, McCann

ABSENT: Parks and Recreation Commissioner Mark Frederick

STAFF: Public Works Senior Engineer Julie Behzad
Administrative Secretary Karen Nelson

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Hubbell called the meeting to order at 6:15pm

DECLARATION - POSTING OF AGENDA: Julie Behzad certified that this meeting's agenda was duly noticed and posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Julie Behzad opened the meeting to public comments. There being no comments, the public comments period was closed.

MINUTES: Approval of the minutes for the March 13, 2003 meeting was deferred to the next meeting.

ORAL REPORTS:

1. Staff Report

*** Status of the BTAC Member Applicants**

Ms. Behzad welcomed new members Alan Clark and Christopher Hauge. One vacancy still exists. Mr. Eltgroth asked if applications were given to the walking club; Mayor Kennedy had offered to ask the club if anyone was interested in joining the BTAC. Ms. Behzad will check to see if applications were given to the walking club and report back.

*** Fiscal Year 2002/03 Safe Routes to School Program (SR25)**

Ms. Behzad reported that we are working with Randall Funding and Development, who exclusively write grants, to prepare the Safe Routes to School Program Grant in coordination with David Gittleson, Associate Engineer in the Public Works Department. Ms. Behzad requested that if any members knew of websites that would offer information relevant to this grant, that those website addresses be forwarded to her and she will forward them to Mr. Gittleson.

Mr. Eltgroth attended a class with the person who wrote the grant for Marin who can be used as a resource for information. Mr. Hauge asked if the type of school (high school vs. elementary) makes a difference for the grant and suggested that submitting a picture of kids walking to school without sidewalks might be influential.

The members would like to review the package before the grant is turned in, and Mr. Gittleson was requested to attend the next meeting on May 8th to present the package to the members for review.

*** Dunne/101/Condit Road Striping**

The striping plan was approved by Caltrans. Concern was expressed about the right turn and bike lane striping on eastbound Dunne. Mr. Eltgroth proposed we check the VTA guideline and recommend to Caltrans to either eliminate the bike lane or put it left of the right turn only lane so that the danger of cars turning into the bike lane are eliminated. Mr. Clark noted that novice riders may be uncomfortable riding between lanes of traffic for extended periods of time and that moving the bike lane left of the right turn lane would require them to do so. Ms. Behzad noted that the area from Highway 101 to west of Condit is all Caltrans right-of-way, and we are required to comply with their standard details. Mr. Eltgroth suggested that cities do have some influence and the possibility exists to make some modifications if they are warranted. He cited Mt. View and the Highway 85/101 project as an example of a city influencing Caltrans to change their plans based on the City's viewpoint.

*** Changes to Bicycle Ordinance**

Ms. Behzad submitted a staff report for the April 15th Parks & Recreation Commission meeting and invited all members to attend at 7pm. This was done because City Council directed staff to get clarification as to scooters and skateboards from the PRC. Mr. Eltgroth noted that the ordinance as it currently reads indicates that skateboards are not allowed on City structures, which means they can't be used in city parks (or even the skateboard park). This section needs rewording and will be revisited at a future BTAC meeting.

2. Bicycle Resource Directory

Beth Gardner is continuing to work on this document. She asked if Karl Bjarke had spoken to Rosemary Rideout in Public Works regarding the map of Davis. Ms. Gardner needs the layout of the map to judge the spacing in the directory. Ms. Behzad committed to following up with Ms. Rideout. Ms. Gardner indicated she has 2 weeks worth of work to be done after she gets the layout, and it will be difficult to bring a copy to the next meeting. Mr. Eltgroth suggested that it would be good for the directories to be available for Bike-To-Work Week (5/12 – 5/16). He also requested that the bike clubs be included in the directory. Ms. Behzad noted that the \$2000 budget for this project will be rebudgeted for next fiscal year if the monies aren't spent by June 30, 2003.

3. Bike to Work Day / Bike to Work Week

Ms. Gardner reported that the VTA license will be sent to Ms. Behzad. The insurance has been approved, and this license is our permit to operate out of the VTA parking lot on May 15th. Two years ago a banner was donated by Specialized Bike; Ms. Gardner thought the City had it, Ms. Behzad will check. Ms. Gardner will write a letter on behalf of the BTAC soliciting food donations from local grocery stores. Mr. Hubbell will solicit 50 water bottles from Burley. Mr. Eltgroth noted that Gavilan College is also soliciting donations for their three energizer stations in Morgan Hill, Gilroy and Hollister. He suggested Ms. Gardner touch base with Lorraine Welk so we don't double request items for the same event. Samantha from the VTA is order cloth tote bags that will be in around the first week of May. These bags will be used for the donated "give-aways" that are collected and given to the people who come by the train station on their bikes. Ms. Gardner, Mr. Eltgroth, and Mr. McCann will be at the train station until about 8:30am on 5/15/03, in the northeast quadrant, to give out the bags to an anticipated 50 people. Mr. McCann is working on advertising for the event (Channel 19, newspapers, etc...). The website www.511.org has information regarding Bike-To-Work Week. Public Works will prepare a proclamation for the May 7, 2003 City Council meeting to be read by the Mayor acknowledging Bike-To-Work Week.

4. Countywide Bicycle Advisory Committee Update

- VTA Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – the bylaws have been changed – this committee is now serving as a countywide advisory committee for VTA and Santa Clara County. Mr. Eltgroth is our current representative on this committee; when his term is up, we will need to designate another representative.
- VTA Managed Projects – Cyclists have complained to VTA that construction projects (like the light rail on Capital Avenue) are making the area bike lanes "unrideable". Next month, VTA staff will report on how these projects are being handled in view of bike access.

- VTA's pending bankruptcy – Transit funds are in jeopardy, but Congestion Management funds are not, and that is the fund that pays for bicycle related items.

BUSINESS

1. Assign a new BTAC Meeting Night

Starting in June, 2003, the BTAC will meet on the third Thursday of each month, starting at 6:15pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- LABLCI Training – Mr. Eltgroth completed this training
- Bicycle Ordinance – PRC is reviewing on April 15, 2003
- Bike Safety Presentation at the Mercury News during Bike to Work Week
- Leadership Morgan Hill Class – Congratulations to Mr. McCann & Mr. Hauge who are in the current class. Congratulations!

REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS

(This is the opportunity for any committee member to have an item placed on a future agenda.)

- Police Department concerns regarding motorized scooters, helmets, and segways as they relate to the proposed bicycle ordinance changes- This item will be included in the item to be reviewed by PRC.
- Bicycle Safety Plan – Police Department Attendance at BTAC meetings
- Safe Routes to School Presentation
- Bikeways Master Plan – Review in May to familiarize new members with the Plan.
- Bikeways Master Plan – Quarterly reviews starting in June to ensure planned items are moving ahead
- Bicycle Education – Vote on purchase of tapes in Spanish for Channel 19 (approximate cost: \$50)

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm. The next meeting will be held on May 8, 2003 at 6:15pm.